



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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April 24, 2015

To the honorable Kurt Heise, Chair
House Criminal Justice Committee
Michigan House of Representatives
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police to inform you of our support for SB 191. This bill will add retail fraud and criminal contempt for failing to appear in court, to the list of crimes for which courts can order reimbursement to the State or a local unit of government.

We recognize that there may be concerns in the House surrounding sentencing guidelines enhancement. We wish to make it clear that we do not see SB 191 as sentencing enhancement; but rather it allows the courts to impose reimbursement fees, as they do now for other crimes, for costs incurred from responding to and prosecuting the offenses mentioned above.

The crimes of Retail Fraud and failure to appear in court, impose significant financial loss on our communities. Reimbursing our communities for the expense of bringing those criminals to justice, is simply a matter of equity. We respectfully request your committee's support for SB191.

Yours Truly,

Martin Underhill, President
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